



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.7708 | FAX (517) 373.1450

www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/gilbert/

For Immediate Release

March 30, 2006

Contact: Jon Cool

517-373-7708

Senate continues to protect Michigan from meth

LANSING – Legislation to protect communities from methamphetamine was passed by the Senate this week, said Sen. Jud Gilbert, R-Algonac.

Senate Bills 1112-1117 and 1119 focus on cleaning up meth-sites, protecting children who have been exposed to meth and providing public access to clean-up procedures. Gilbert's bill, SB 1117, requires the Department of Human Services to refer child abuse cases that include a child's exposure to meth production to the prosecuting attorney.

"It is unacceptable to allow children to be exposed to the production of meth because of the devastating long-term physical and social effects it can have on them," Gilbert said. "Protecting our children from unsafe and unhealthy living environments remains a top priority. We will do everything we can to help these kids so they can lead normal, healthy lives."

The legislative package will:

- Require DHS to partner with local law enforcement when a child has been exposed to meth.
- Require statewide criteria that every community should follow in order for a home or other meth production site to be considered clean and ready for occupancy.
- Require DEQ to report to the Legislature the nature of environmental contamination materials found during meth lab busts.
- Require a public website listing the location of meth busts and indicating if the location has been cleaned.
- Allow the attorney general to prosecute a person maintaining a website containing instructions for producing meth.

The Senate also passed Senate Resolution 101 memorializing the United States Congress to provide flexible funding to help states and local communities clean up and deal with the disastrous effects of clandestine methamphetamine labs.

"Today we are giving our local communities new ways to fight the growing meth problem," Gilbert said. "The public has a right to know if there is an environmental hazard near them. Listing the locations of meth busts on a public website and what stage of clean-up they're in will help local residents be informed and aware of what's going on in their neighborhood."

###